

MYSORE DISTRICT.

Proceedings of the District Committee held on 18th August 1888.

Present.

Mr. Russell.
 „ Virasangappa.
 „ Ambli Pandit.
 „ Shama Rao, M. A.
 „ Lingaraj Ars.
 „ Dodpapanna.
 „ Venkatdasappa.

Mr. Wallace.
 Revd. Mr. Hocken.
 Mr. Evans.
 „ Chengaiya Chetti.
 „ Malhar Rao.
 „ J. W. Knight, in the chair.

Mr. Knight, after tendering the Deputy Commissioner's apology for not being able to attend the Meeting owing to ill-health, read out the Proceedings of the Mass Meeting held on 15th instant, and put before the members the proposition about affording facilities of accommodation, supply of food and water, &c., for the exhibitors that come from different parts of the country.

Proposed by Mr. Shama Rao that the Central Committee be requested to undertake to provide accommodation *free of cost* to the exhibitors and that the District Committee arrange with some private individuals to open out hotels where the exhibitors could mess on payment.

Seconded by Mr. Virasangappa.—Carried *nem con*.

Proposed by Mr. Russell that the Central Committee be requested to arrange to provide accommodation for European exhibitors on payment of a fixed charge, the accommodation to be provided being either tents or other temporary structure.

Mr. Malhar Rao suggests that the Deputy Commissioners of all the Districts be requested to send in the available tents for the above purpose.

Seconded by Mr. Evans.—Carried *nem con*.

Proposed by Mr. Russell that the Central Committee be requested to invite as guests 2 representative planters to be chosen by the Associations of each of the Coffee Districts including Coorg, the Wynaad and the Nilgiris.

Seconded by Mr. Wallace.—Carried by the majority.

Read letter from the Joint Secretaries of the Central Committee requesting the District Committee to assist in the supervision of the buildings to be erected for the Exhibition.

Proposed by Mr. Malhar Rao that the Executive Committee be requested to undertake the needed supervision.

Seconded by Mr. Russell.—Carried by the majority.

Mr. Russell requests that he may be allowed to bring in *if possible* 2 families of jungle Kurubas and get them to erect huts after their own way, so that visitors to the Exhibition may have the opportunity of seeing the class of aboriginies mostly employed on forest work.

Resolved that the above request be communicated to the Central Committee for favorable consideration and early orders.

Resolved that Mr. Evan's name be added to the list of the members of the Executive Committee.

Proposed by Mr. Wallace that to facilitate work, the Central Committee be requested to select a gentleman from those forming the District Committee at Mysore and add their names to the list Central Committee.

Seconded by Mr. Venkatdasappa.—Carried *nem con*.

Meeting adjourned with a vote of thanks to the chair.

T. ANANDA RAO,
 Deputy Commissioner.

The 5th September 1888.

Report submitted by the Joint-Secretaries to the Central Committee, Bangalore, dated 21st August 1888.

President and Gentlemen—

On the 3rd May last the Government accorded sanction to an Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition to be held at Mysore about the middle of October 1888, and directed the formation of a Committee with Mr. Bicketts as its President, for the management of the Exhibition. The Committee met for the

first time on the 30th May and sat for three days and passed the final Prize list, which subsequently received the sanction of Government. The final Prize list provided for Rs. 8,447—0—0 on account of prizes against Rs. 7,215 provided for in the original draft, thus effecting an increase of Rs. 1,232 in the amount of prizes. The balance is therefore reduced to Rs. 1,553 available for the erection of the Exhibition Buildings, the maintenance of temporary establishments, the purchase of stationery, printing charges and other expenses. The Exhibition Buildings alone may be roughly calculated to cost Rs. 5,000 gross and other expenses Rs. 1,500. It is therefore necessary to apply to Government for an additional grant of Rs. 5,000. The details of expenses hitherto incurred may be summarized as follows:—

- (a.) Rupees 100 have been placed at the disposal of each of the Deputy Commissioners of Hassan, Shimoga, Kadur and Chitaldroog for any expenditure which may be found necessary for the forwardal of exhibits. The other Districts have not been given a similar amount as they have the advantage of Railway communication.
- (b.) Rupees 850 have been advanced to the Deputy Commissioners of Bangalore and Mysore for purchasing plaited cocoanut leaves for roofing the sheds and a further allotment of at least Rs. 500 will have to be made under this head.
- (c.) The Forest Department has been requested to lend the requisite number of bamboos, which arrangement effects a considerable saving under buildings.
- (d.) Messrs. Addison and Co's. bill for printing Tamil and Telugu copies of the Prize list amounts to Rs. 118.
- (e.) A non-official Gentleman has undertaken to visit the principal stations of Southern India, with a view to give wide publicity to the Exhibition, as well as to enlist the co-operation of public spirited men. His travelling expenses estimated to amount Rs. 150 will be defrayed from the Exhibition funds.
- (f.) Rupees 50 have been expended on service stamps and sundry charges connected with the distribution of Prize lists outside the Province.
- (g.) Sanction of the President has been obtained for appointing an Overseer on a salary of Rs. 25 per mensem, to supervise the construction of the Exhibition Buildings. Thus the amount till now expended is Rs. 1,568.

We now beg to place before you a brief resume of the work we have till now transacted. Our endeavours have been directed chiefly towards giving wide publicity to the Exhibition, the selection of the Exhibition site and the collection of materials for the sheds.

The advertisement of the Exhibition has now been fairly completed. In our Province a large number of Kanarese copies of the Prize list have been forwarded to the Deputy Commissioners for distribution among the ryots, merchants, mechanics and others, through the Amildars and their subordinate officers. A large number of Kanarese hand bills and Prize lists have again been distributed through the agency of the Police with directions to put up a Prize list at every Hobli chavadi and Police Station and to deliver a hand bill to every important villager. Copies have also been sent to the Officer, Amrut Mahal Department, for favor of distribution among the Servegars who are likely to exhibit good specimens of cattle, and to the Superintendents of Workshops, Mills and Orphanages. Hand bills have been freely distributed to all the shops and bazaars in the towns of Bangalore and Mysore. The Inspector General of Prisons has been requested to order the exhibition of articles manufactured in Jails. The leading Newspapers within and without the Province were also requested to give the subject wide publicity. The Mysore Government Gazette has likewise published the Prize Lists and Regulations in three successive issues, and is now devoting a separate Section for the publication of official papers connected with the Exhibition. The Coffee Planters and the several plant Associations have also been duly apprised of the details. Suggestions have been made to the Deputy Commissioners to hold Mass Meetings at all the District and Taluk Head-quarters and to form Taluk Sub-Committees which are to meet every week and forward their proceedings through the District Committees. It has also been advised to publish the requisite information by means of tom-tom, hand bells and placards at the weekly fairs held in different parts of the Province.

Outside the Province likewise a large number of English, Tamil, Telugu and Kanarese copies of Prize list have been distributed through the British Resident, and the Government of India have been solicited to address Local Governments and Native Administrations in India to co-operate in the matter. Copies have been sent direct to the leading firms, manufactories and mills, and to several private gentlemen in India. The important firms in Madras and the Superintendent of the Madras School of Arts have been specially invited to favor us with their exhibits. It is also proposed to stick up English placards at the important Railway Stations and in the important towns of the Madras Presidency.

Mr. Hewetson as a member of our Committee has taken much interest in our undertaking and we expect a large number of good exhibits from what may be termed the entrepôt of trade with the Province, and the centre of a large trading and manufacturing community. Government have also

been requested to address the British Resident, if possible, with a view to secure more organized co-operation on the part of the authorities of the Assigned Tract by the formation of a separate Committee.

We have received letters from Messrs. Massey & Co. of Madras, the Superintendent of Betti Farm, the Superintendent of the Basel Mission, Mangalore, and certain private individuals from within the Province intimating their intention to take part in the Exhibition. The applications received are not however many, but there is yet time to hope for better results.

We have now to say a few words about the Exhibition site and the buildings to be constructed thereon. The Rangacharlu Memorial Hall compound had at first been proposed for the site. It was thought that its central position and the proximity to a large building to hold valuable exhibits were recommendations in its favor. But during our last visit to Mysore we learnt that a large volume of sewage water passes through a drain across the land during the rains, and found that the grounds were not ready and that public opinion was strongly against the utilization of the site, and moreover the ground is not sufficiently extensive for our purposes and is far away from any land fit for holding the ploughing competitions. The townsmen were afraid of infectious diseases breaking out on the occasion among men and cattle. A consideration of these contingencies led us to the selection of a new site between the Public offices and the Victoria Jubilee Institute now under construction. This site has several advantages both in its position and in its surroundings. Situated on an eminence it commands a view of the whole city, has a good drainage and the purest air. The ground is hard affording a firm fixture to the buildings, and decently level, and commands important convenience of water supply on either side. It is sufficiently near the town without its being too near, and is about 6 furlongs from the Railway Station, 4 from the Nanjaraj Bahadur Chattram, and only a furlong from the old Distillery buildings below the Kukarhalli tank both of which will afford ample accommodation to the visitors, and the Deputy Commissioner of Mysore has been kind enough to promise the use of these buildings for the purpose. Under these circumstances we have obtained the sanction of the President to the change of site and have commenced work. The grounds have been measured and marked out and we have also laid out the positions of the sheds. The necessary materials for building the sheds have been mostly stored on the grounds, and a contractor has been directed to construct an experimental shed with a view to estimate the cost as accurately as possible. The Deputy Commissioner has also been requested to invite tenders from contractors and these measures will, it is hoped, reduce the expenses on account of the buildings as much as possible. Either of the Secretaries will go back to Mysore on Thursday to decide about the contract in conjunction with the Deputy Commissioner.

These, Gentlemen, are briefly the measures till now carried out in respect of the Exhibition. We shall be happy to receive and carry out any instructions you may give regarding the management of the Exhibition, its further publication, and the construction and decoration of the sheds.

We must be permitted to submit that too much cannot be done towards the success of an exhibition; and in Mysore the undertaking is the first of its kind. Besides, we have to contend against difficulties more or less beyond our control. When the Exhibition was sanctioned, the Government hardly anticipated the unfavorable aspect, which the present season has assumed, causing anxiety to the Agricultural population on whose activity and co-operation the success of our exhibition so much depends. Apart from the peculiarities of the present season, October is hardly the time when a large collection of Agricultural products can be expected. Further, the Poona Exhibition is advertised to be held at about the same time as our Exhibition, and this will in no small measure take away from the general effect of our undertaking, if not from its success. It appears to be formed on a large scale, to continue for so long as a month, and to afford greater facilities to intending exhibitors. The Poona Exhibition has proposed to bear the charges of transmission of the exhibits both to and from the scene of Exhibition. The Mysore Exhibition on the other hand promises a free passage of the exhibits only on their return to the forwarding station—a concession which the Railway Companies have kindly made. We should therefore like to propose, with a view at least to an equal encouragement, to promise to bear the expenses of transmission to Mysore of the exhibits to the extent of the actual Railway charges. There is also another proposition which we venture to submit for your favorable consideration and which will materially tend to increase the number of exhibits and consequently the success of the Exhibition. Resolution 13 requires intending exhibitors to be in charge of the exhibits, in person or by an agent, the Exhibition Committee declining to receive articles consigned to their address. This rule would work harshly in the case of a large number of exhibitors who may like to send in exhibits, but who may not be able to spare the time, expense and trouble of accompanying their exhibits. We have also received a few representations of this kind. These circumstances induce us to propose the appointment of an agency to receive exhibits on behalf of exhibitors, arrange for their safe custody during the Exhibition, and have them sold or returned as the exhibitors may desire. Perhaps a percentage commission may be levied on sales thus effected to meet the cost of the agency, and any extra expenditure which may be incurred, may be defrayed from Exhibition funds.

J. CAMERON,
S. A. BAPU RAO,
Honorary Secretaries.